

BOROUGH OF BLANDFORD FORUM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR..... 1900



BOROUGH OF BLANDFORD FORUM

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

His Worship the Mayor:-..... Councillor E.G. Riggs.

The Deputy Mayor:-..... Councillor T.W. Fowler.

Aldermen:-

Alderman J.L. Carter.

Alderman G.R.J. Haskett.

Alderman D. Gent.

Alderman B.C. Hunt.

Councillors.

Councillor G.O. Fry.

Councillor G. Gibbs.

Councillor T.L. Hughes.

Councillor Mrs. G.F. King.

Councillor H.H. Macnally.

Councillor W.T. Newsome.

Councillor W.L. Penny.

Councillor J. Trickett.

Councillor Miss A.A. Williams.

Councillor F. Wyatt.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. G.B. Hopkins M.B., Ch. B., B.Pharm., D.P.H.

holding appointments of:-

Assistant County Medical Officer.	}	5/11th of time.
School Medical Officers.		
Medical Officer of Health.		- Borough of Blandford Forum.
Medical Officer of Health.		- Blandford Rural District.
Medical Officer of Health.		- Wimborne Minster Urban District.
Medical Officer of Health.		- Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District.

contributing roughly:-

Borough of Blandford Forum.....	$\frac{1}{4}$ day per week.
Blandford Rural District.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ day per week.
Wimborne Minster Urban District.....	$\frac{1}{3}$ day per week.
Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ days per week.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

H.L. Birkett.

M.R.S.H.

M.P.H.I.A.

The Plocks,
Blandford.
Dorset.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my Annual Report
for 1960, and regret that it has not been possible to give
attention to its preparation earlier.

G.B. Hopkins.

MARCH, 1962.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Area of Borough.....	253 acres.
Population as estimated by Registrar General (mid-year).....	3290
Total number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1960.....	1174
Rateable value at 1st April, 1960.....	£49, 734
Product of Penny Rate at 1st April, 1960.....	£195.18.9

As supplied by the Registrar General.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Blandford.</u>	<u>Comparative Statistics.</u>	
					<u>England & Wales.</u>	<u>Administrative County.</u>
Total number registered.	67	37	30			
Legitimate.....	61	34	27			
Illegitimate.....	6	3	3			
Standardised Rate.....				20.1.	17.1.	15.4

STILLBIRTHS

2 female stillbirths were registered.

INFANT MORTALITY

One male infant died under one week of age.

DEATHS

Total number registered.	50	21	29	11.4.	11.5.	12.5.
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Comparability Factors

Births..... 1.03
Deaths..... 0.75

SECTION ANATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population estimate by the Registrar General revealed a slight increase for the first time for several years, the trend for some years previously having been downwards.

SECTION BAMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service is provided by the Dorset County Council. Control is centralised in Dorchester and the service operates from Castleman House.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY.

The Public Health Laboratory Service was created to enable Medical Officers of Health throughout the country to have free access to a Laboratory in connection with epidemiological investigations and routing bacteriological examination of water, milk, ice cream and other foods. The local laboratory is situated at Dorchester and provides an excellent scientific service.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The County Council provided an Infant Welfare Clinic in Blandford once a fortnight.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The County Home Help Scheme provided a service in Blandford and surrounding district.

SECTION CPREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Scarlet fever.....	2
Pneumonia.....	1
Measles.....	5
Tuberculosis.....	3

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of the year the number of cases in the Tuberculosis Register was as follows:-

Pulmonary

Males..... 15
Females..... 9

Non-Pulmonary

Males..... 2
Females..... 1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION STATISTICS.

<u>BCG.</u>		<u>FOLIOMYELITIS.</u>		<u>DIPHTHERIA.</u>		<u>WHOOPING COUGH.</u>		<u>TETANUS.</u>		<u>SMALLPOX.</u>	
Contacts.	159	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.
School-leavers.	281.	315.	388.	78.	98.	71.	24.	151.	28.	40.	12.

P = Primary Course of two or three injections.

B = Booster dose of one single injection.

Notifiable Diseases.
Notification in Age Groups - 1960

[illegible]

SECTION D
STATISTICAL TABLES FOR THE YEAR - 1960
Causes of Death

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases....	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms..	2	-
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	1	4
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	6	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	-	-
20. Other heart disease.....	4	11
21. Other circulatory disease.....	1	3
22. Influenza.....	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	1	-
24. Bronchitis.....	3	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases....	-	-
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	-	-
34. All other accidents.....	-	1
35. Suicide.....	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-
TOTALS...	21	29

ADMINISTRATION

A whole-time medical officer took the place of the half-time medical officer performing County Council duties in East Dorset, and substantially released me for district council duties.

VERMINOUS OR FILTHY PERSONS, OR PREMISES.

Further informal action was required in connection with a man whose habits left much to be desired and it is with relief that I record the fact that he left the district during the latter part of the year.

FOOD POISONING.

No case was notified.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

There was a continuation of the work commenced the previous year, and the routine inspections were usefully combined with educational activities designed to acquaint or remind retailers and hotel and cafe proprietors of the potential hazards of food poisoning associated with handling and storing foods such as dairy and meat products, synthetic cream, dried egg powders, bulk frozen eggs, gravies, sauces and custards.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

These were consolidating regulations mainly, but the function of issuing dealers' licences was transferred to the Food and Drug Authority, namely Dorset County Council. However, your Council still retains control over the hygienic standards of dairies through the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, upon compliance with which, inter alia, the granting of a dealer's licence by the Food and Drug Authority depends.

ICE CREAM

No manufacturing for sale is carried out within the Borough. Four samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and were reported as satisfactory, three being Grade 1 and one Grade 11.

MEAT INSPECTION

This continues to be performed on a 100% basis by your public health inspector at the privately owned abattoir near the centre of the town. Statistics are given below:-

Number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year 1960.

Steers.	Heifers.	Cows and Bulls.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
643	649	409	33	533	7,859

Summary of Unsound Meat condemned during the year 1960.

For diseases other than Tuberculosis:	Offal.....	6,735 lbs.
For diseases other than Tuberculosis-	part carcass meat.....	1,832 lbs.
For diseases other than Tuberculosis	-whole carcass meat.....	560 lbs.
For Tuberculosis:	Offal.....	1715 lbs.
For Tuberculosis.	- part carcass meat.....	6,500 lbs.
For Tuberculosis.	- whole carcass meat.....	822

Number of animals found to be affected with Cysticercus Bovis.... 19

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

No action was necessary under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act or under the 1951 Amendment.

WATER SUPPLY

The Poole and East Dorset Water Board assumed responsibility for the supply of water in April.

The water has been consistently satisfactory in quality and has been in adequate supply.

Bacteriological examinations were performed by the Board and the results for their Black Lane and Blandford St. Mary bores are given.

RAW WATER - Bacteriological Classification.

	Total No. of Samples.	MOH Classification,			
		1.	2.	3.	4.
Black Lane.....	25	17.	6.	2.	0.
Blandford St. Mary.....	8	8.	0.	0.	0.
	<u>Max. P.C.</u>	<u>Coli. 1</u>			
	<u>at 37 deg.C.</u>	<u>demonstrated.</u>			
Black Lane.....	200	0			
Blandford St. Mary.....	11	0			

WATER - Continued.DISTRIBUTED WATER - Bacteriological Classification

	<u>Total Number of Samples.</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification.</u>			
		<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
Black Lane.....	23	23.	0.	0.	0.
Blandford St. Mary.....	4	4.	0.	0.	0.

One sample of distributed water was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and no coliform growth occurred.

The public analyst's report on a sample of distributed water follows:-

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

1. Appearance - clear.	2. Taste and Odour - normal.
3. Colour - colourless.	4. pH value - 7.6.
5. Free - Trace Chlorine.	
	(parts per million)
6. Total Solid Residue (dried at 180 deg.C)	290 " " "
7. Suspended matter (dried at 105 deg.C)	Nil " " "
8. Chlorine as chloride.....	29 " " "
9. Ammoniacal Nitrogen - less than 0.005 (free ammonia expressed as N)	0.005 " " "
10. Albuminoid Nitrogen (expressed as N) 0.0025	" " "
11. Nitrate Nitrogen (expressed as N)	3.2 " " "
12. Nitrite Nitrogen. (expressed as N)	0.005 " " "
13. Total Alkalinity (as Calcium Carbonate)	180 " " "
14. Hardness (Total).....	230 " " "
15. Hardness (Temporary).....	180 " " "
16. Hardness (Permanent).....	50 " " "
17. Metals. Poisonous (as elements).....	absent " " "
18. Oxygen absorption from Permanganate solution in 4 hours at 27 C.....	1.2 " " "
19. Other tests.	-

REMARKS

From a chemical aspect this water is suitable for a public supply but may form a deposit on standing (from the temporary hardness)

Signed... G.V. James.

19th November, 1960

Public Analyst.

WATER-continued.

No plumbo solvent action takes place.

No action has been necessary in respect of contamination.

All houses have a public mains supply, but an estimated thirty-two households were supplied by standpipes, involving about seventy persons.

Notices under the Public Health Act achieved an internal supply in respect of six of the above houses.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH.

Replacement of the chlorination apparatus enabled the swimming bath to continue in use, though difficulties were imposed by turbidity due to the growth of algae and allied micro organisms between changes of water, leading to variable utilisation of chlorine.

Sterilisation under these circumstances is by the relatively slow chloramines, not free chlorine.

The bath fulfills a most valuable function for a wide area, and it is gratifying to record that discussions continued on the subject of a completely new bath with modern filtration and chlorination apparatus.

The results of seventeen bacteriological samples examined by the Public Health Laboratory are given below.

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Probable No. of Coliform bacilli per 100 ml.</u>	<u>Probable No. of Bact. coli (type 1) per 100 ml.</u>
1.	-	1
2.	3	-
3.	8	-
4.	-	-
5.	-	-
6.	13	-
7.	-	25
8.	-	3
9.	-	-
10.	-	-
11.	-	-
12.	-	35
13.	-	160
14.	-	25
15.	-	90
16.	-	1
17.	-	35

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A complete water carriage system operates throughout the Borough.

CLEAN AIR ACT.

No action was necessary.

HOUSING.

Building land is very limited indeed within the Borough and further sites depend upon clearing small areas. This is in itself dependent upon the possibility of re-housing the inhabitants of such areas, demanding meticulous planning.

Progress was made with flat development for forty families during the year, and it is hoped that some of these will provide accommodation for several families from unfit dwellings.

It is estimated that about five-hundred dwellings in the town are without baths and a domestic hot water supply.

Closing orders under S.16 of the Housing Act, 1957, were made in respect of three houses.

OVERCROWDING.

(a)	No. of Dwellings overcrowded 31/12/60.....	2
	No. of Families therein.....	3
	No. of Persons involved.....	3
(b)	No. of new cases reported.....	1
(c)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved.....	1
	and number of persons concerned.....	7
(d)	No. of renewed cases of overcrowding.....	1

RENTS ACT, 1957

No application for Certificates of Disrepair were received from tenants during 1960 and there were no certificates outstanding from the previous year.

FACTORIES ACT - 1957
Part One - Health (General Provisions)

<u>PREMISES.</u>	<u>Number on Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Number of:- Written Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted.</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	6	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	48	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>TOTAL</u>	54	24	Nil	Nil

Number of Cases in which defects were found:-

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</u>
Sanitary Conveniences.			
(a) Insufficient.	2	2	Nil

PART VIII of the Act.

OUTWORKERS.

Number of outworkers on list.

Wearing apparel - making etc..... 13
 Courtains and furniture hangings..... 1

No cases of default in sending lists to the Council or prosecutions for failure to supply lists occurred.

There were no instances of work in unwholesome premises.

REFUSE COLLECTION

This is on a weekly collection basis, and a good service is given.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Difficulties continued with the old tip and preliminary consideration was given to possible alternative sites.

Action taken under Acts of
Parliament.

Public Health Acts.

Informal Public Health Act Notices served.....	27
Informal Public Health Notices complied with.....	23
Number of Statutory Notices served.....	3
Number of Statutory Notices complied with.....	2

Housing Acts.

Number of Informal Notices served.....	Nil
Number of Informal Notices complied with.....	Nil
Number of Unfit Houses closed under Section 16(4) 17 (1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957.....	3

Food and Drugs Acts.

Number of Informal Notices served.....	7
Number of Informal Notices complied with.....	6

Factories Acts and Regulations.

Number of Informal Notices served.....	2
Number of Informal Notices complied with.....	2

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

Total number of visits made.....	517
Number of premises surveyed on notification.....	64
Number of premises surveyed under the Act.....	215
Number of premises found to be infested with rats.....	49
Number of premises found to be infested with mice.....	12
Total number of premises treated for rats and mice infestations.....	61

A large number of complaints were received from the public of wasps nests and all these were effectively dealt with by the Rodent Officer.

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- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (5)
- (6)
- (7)

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